

IN THE CLAIMS

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The status of each claim is set forth in parentheses. This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

1-13 (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A computing device including a communication device and a data processor, wherein the computing device uses the communication device to establish communication with at least one device within a data processing system, and in which the data processor is arranged to identify a challenge from at least one trusted computing device as claimed in claim 12, in which the computing device is arranged to search for a generation identifier within the challenge, to apply response rules to the generation identifier to see if the challenge is still valid, and if it is not to disregard the challenge and if the challenge is valid to apply response rules to the challenge and, if a response indicated, to respond to the challenge in accordance with the rules.

15. (original) A computing device as claimed in claim 14, in which the computing device retransmits the challenge with a modified generation identifier if the challenge is valid.

16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim [[16]] 20, in which the trusted computing continues to challenge the devices in the data processing environment so as to maintain an evolving record of the status of the data processing environment.

18. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim [[16]] 20, in which the record includes a historical status of the data processing environment.

19. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim [[16]] 20, in which the at least one trusted computing device listens to communications within the data processing environment so as to identify the presence of new devices.

20. (currently amended) A method of ascertaining the status of a data processing environment, comprising the following steps:

a trusted computing device challenges other devices within a data processing environment, keeps a record of responses made to the challenges and makes the record available ~~as claimed in claim 16~~, in which a challenge of the challenges generated by the trusted device includes a generation identifier such that any device receiving the challenge can examine the generation identifier in order to establish whether the challenge is directly received from the trusted computing device or whether it has been retransmitted.

21. (canceled).

22. (currently amended) A method of conducting a transaction in a data processing environment comprising a user device and at least a trusted computing device each having respective communication capabilities wherein the trusted computing device keeps a record of computing devices that it has identified within the data processing environment, and whereby the user device establishes communication with the trusted computing device, the trusted computing device sends to the user device at least a portion of the record of computing devices within the data processing environment, and the user device analyses the record to establish what facilities the user device may access ~~as claimed in claim 21~~, wherein the user device further analyses the record in accordance with a set of security rules to determine what level of trust can be placed on the integrity of the data processing environment.

23.-24. (canceled)